

For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.
(10 marks)

1. The trekkers struggled all the way, _____ the summit of Mount Ophir in the late afternoon.
 (1) reach
 (2) reached (3)
 (3) reaching
 (4) had reached

2. Jane went to the market this morning, _____ she?
 (1) did
 (2) had
 (3) didn't
 (4) hadn't (3)

3. Tom was at the beach when he heard someone _____ for help.
 (1) scream
 (2) screamed
 (3) has screamed
 (4) had screamed (1)

4. The place of Sentosa is _____ tourists can enjoy the day at the man-made swimming lagoon.
 (1) whom
 (2) which (3)
 (3) where
 (4) whose

5. "Do help _____ to the sweets and chocolates on the table," said Mrs Loi as she beckoned us to the table.
 (1) ourselves
 (2) ownelves
 (3) yourselves (3)
 (4) themselves

6. Each and every member of the baseball teams _____ given a souvenir when they left the field.
 (1) is
 (2) are
 (3) was
 (4) were (3)



7. If I _____ so tired, I would have gone with Timothy to the library to borrow some books.

- (1) was not
- (2) am not
- (3) have not been
- (4) had not been

(4)

8. "Kim enjoys swimming. I'll take her to the pool should she _____ me this Sunday."

- (1) visit
- (2) visits
- (3) visited
- (4) visiting

(1)

9. _____ from going to work, Joe stays at home most of the time.

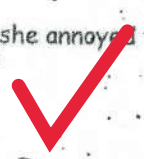
- (1) Apart
- (2) Since
- (3) Except
- (4) Despite

(1)

10. Mrs. Lim was afraid to complain about the noise _____ she annoyed the neighbours.

- (1) as
- (2) lest
- (3) while
- (4) before

(2)



For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.
(5 marks)

11. Tim pedalled _____ to try and keep up with the rest of the competitors.

- (1) promptly
- (2) modestly
- (3) vigorously
- (4) extravagantly

3

(4)

12. The team will need all the strength they can _____ to win the competition.

- (1) sow
- (2) muster
- (3) control
- (4) harness

2

(4)

13. Jenny has made an appointment to see a _____. She has developed red patches on her face and arms.

- (1) physicist
- (2) philanthropist
- (3) dermatologist
- (4) anthropologist

3

(3)

14. You should not have thrown a stone at that poor dog. What an _____ act!

- (1) atrocious
- (2) awkward
- (3) incredible
- (4) indifferent

1

(2)

15. The seriously wounded accident victim might not _____ the operation to survive.

- (1) pull off
- (2) pull out
- (3) pull over
- (4) pull through

(4)

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). (5 marks)

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The Wolverine and Arctic Fox are carnivores found in the Polar region. With a (16) vast home range of about 1000 square miles, the Wolverine can cover great distances at a slow trot. It swims well and climbs quickly, often (17) pouncing on prey from a tree. Its eyesight is poor, but its senses of smell and hearing are exceptionally good. Very powerful for its size, the (18) violent Wolverine can drive away even a bear or Mountain Lion. The Arctic Fox is well suited to its subzero habitat - it has a (19) compact body with short legs and ears, dense fur and thick hair on the footpads which (20) protects against the cold and provides traction on ice. Winter fur develops in October. The coat thickens and the new hairs provide camouflage against snow and ice.

16. (1) wide
(2) hefty
(3) limited
(4) narrow
17. (1) grabbing wildly
(2) swooping swiftly
(3) leaping suddenly
(4) attacking eagerly
18. (1) wild
(2) harsh
(3) ruthless
(4) ferocious
19. (1) slim and fit
(2) slim and tiny
(3) fit and well-proportioned
(4) small and well-proportioned
20. (1) defends
(2) exposes
(3) insulates
(4) separates

(1)

(4)

3

(4)

(2)

4

(1)

3

Sichuan Giant Panda Conservation Centre

Proudly Presents

An Exhibition: The Giant Panda Spectacular

Celebrate the Endangered Species Month. Come and learn about our shy and delicate furry friends which hail from the bamboo forests in China!

Venue: Conference Hall A, Zoological Gardens
Date: 15 - 28 April 2015

Back by Popular Demand for the 9th consecutive year!



The Panda Exhibit

Watch the pandas feed on bamboo shoots and leaves specially flown in from China!

Panda Drawing Contest

Contest for children below the age of 8 only. Draw the Panda and win the mystery prize!

Parent-Child Panda Dress Up Fun!

Come dressed as pandas! The best-looking pair wins admission passes for a family of four to River Safari!

About Sichuan Giant Panda Conservation Centre

There are fewer than 1000 giant pandas in the world, of which 80% are distributed within the territory of Sichuan province.

The Sichuan Giant Panda Conservation Centre was established in 1996 and provides the best possible environment for rearing and breeding.

The necessary facilities for giant pandas include a fodder room and a medical station. Additionally, there are research laboratories and a training centre. As many as ten thousand clumps of bamboos and bushes have been cultivated to provide for the giant pandas' diet and habitat. Another 500 acres of land will be developed to simulate a natural environment to prepare the giant pandas for release into the wild.

For more information, call Ahmad (office hours) at 67784434 OR visit our website at www.panda2015.com.sg

Main Sponsor: Singapore Cargo Pte Ltd

Other Sponsors: Lime Times Magazine
Panda Protection Association

Newspaper article extracted from:
The Singapore Times, 16 April 2015

Giant Pandas In Singapore For The Ninth Consecutive Year

Reported by Tan Sze Sze

The Giant Panda Spectacular Exhibition at the Zoological Gardens held its opening ceremony yesterday. This marks the collaboration between Sichuan Giant Panda Conservation Centre and Zoological Gardens for the ninth consecutive year.

Many gathered as early as 9 a.m. to be the first in line to catch a glimpse of male panda Heng Heng (Fortunate) and female panda Mei Mei (Pretty).

A student from National University of Singapore, 20, said the exhibition was a satisfying experience.



Heng Heng (left) and Mei Mei
enjoying a meal of bamboo shoots
and leaves

"It was time and money well-spent. The exhibition looks great and we are impressed by the world-class facilities built for the pandas here," said Glenda Woon, who was accompanied by her two brothers.

There were some, however, who felt more could be done to improve the exhibition.

Steve Tan, an advertising manager, said he felt the tickets were slightly overpriced.

"The \$25 entrance fee to the panda exhibition is quite steep in addition to the \$20 entrance fee to the zoo," he said.

"We also had to wait for 45 minutes to get into the exhibition area and were only given 20 minutes to view the pandas."

Chairman of the exhibition organising committee, Mr. Freddy Ho, was glad with the turnout of 3500 yesterday.

For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.
(8 marks)

21. Who is the organiser of The China Panda Spectacular Exhibition?

- (1) Singapore Cargo Pte Ltd
- (2) Lime Times Magazine
- (3) Panda Protection Association
- (4) Sichuan Giant Panda Conservation Centre

(1)

4

22. Which of the following statements is true?

- (1) Pandas are fed with locally produced bamboo shoots. X
- (2) Tommy and his uncle can join the Parent-Child Panda Dress Up Fun. X
- (3) Five year old Jim is able to take part in the Panda Drawing Contest. ✓
- (4) The China Panda Spectacular Exhibition is held for the first time in Singapore.

(3)

23. How can the public find out more about The China Panda Spectacular Exhibition before it opens?

- (1) Visit the Sichuan Giant Panda Conservation Centre personally
- (2) Read the newspaper article to find out
- (3) Surf the stated website to find out
- (4) Call all the sponsors to ask for information brochures to be sent to your home

(3)

24. In what way is Sichuan province aptly called the hometown of the giant pandas?

- (1) The Giant Panda Conservation Centre is located in Sichuan province.
- (2) 80% of the giant pandas in the world are distributed within the territory of Sichuan province.
- (3) Sichuan province provides the best possible environment for growing bamboos, which is a staple in pandas' diet.
- (4) Many researchers from the Giant Panda Conservation Centre reside in Sichuan province.

(2)

25. How does the Sichuan Giant Panda Conservation Centre prepare the pandas for their release into the wild?

- (1) By feeding the pandas bamboos and bushes
- (2) By building facilities like the fodder room and medical station
- (3) By making use of more land to simulate a natural environment for the pandas
- (4) By having researchers to train the pandas to live in their natural environment

(3)

26. Which are the admission charges that a visitor has to pay if he wishes to view the panda exhibition?

- (1) The entrance fee to the zoo only
- (2) The entrance fee to the panda exhibition only
- (3) Both the entrance fee to the zoo and the entrance fee to the panda exhibition
- (4) None

(3)

27. Which of the following is not a feedback provided by the public on the exhibition?

- (1) Long waiting time to enter the exhibition area
- (2) Little time to view the pandas
- (3) High admission charges
- (4) Poor facilities in the exhibition area

(4)

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28. How did the Chairman of the exhibition organising committee feel towards the turnout on the first day of the exhibition?

- (1) Disappointed
- (2) Pleased
- (3) Upset
- (4) Excited

(4) 2

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks).

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) to ✓	(D) at ✓	(G) till	(K) inside	(N) who
(B) will ✓	(E) our ✓	(H) without ✓	(L) along ✓	(P) would
(C) within ✓	(F) their ✓	(J) through	(M) throughout	(Q) that ✓

Singaporeans are reducing energy consumption. Bishan-Toa Payoh Town Council is no different, and they are doing (29) (F) part to keep utility cost low.

There are two approaches (30) (D)^A energy saving: one way is to use energy-efficient products, and the second is to change (31) (E) usage pattern. Bishan-Toa Payoh Town Council has implemented alternate lighting (32) (M) the estates. Corridor lights are typically switched on from 6.45 p.m. (33) (A)^G 7.00 a.m. To conserve energy and (34) (H) compromising the residents' safety, alternate lights (35) (L) the corridor and staircase will be switched off at 1.00 a.m. and turned on again at 5.00 a.m.

The Town Council (36) (B) be installing High Powered Compact Fluorescent Lamps (37) (Q) are more energy efficient. Changing of lamps in Bishan and Toa Payoh Central precincts will be completed (38) (C) the year. The project is expected to save \$4,000 to \$6,000 per month.

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes. (12 marks)

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(39) are X

The laughing kookaburra is the largest member of the kingfisher family and were once called

(40) spatialize X

the giant kingfisher. Most kingfishers are brightly coloured, and many of them spacialize in

diving into streams and ponds to catch fish. The laughing kookaburra, however, is plainly

(41) variety

coloured and rarely eats fish! Its beak can reach 4 inches long and is used to snatch a veriatee

of invertebrates and small vertebrates, including the occasional small snake. Since being

(42) introduced

(43) by

inthroduzed in Western Australia and New Zealand, the kookaburra has angered farmers at

(44) Currently

preying on their fowl. Laughing kookaburras are not current considered threatened although

(45) habitat

(46) adapted

loss of habetatt is a primary threat to the birds. They have adapt well to human development

and often inhabit suburban areas, which provide both food and shelter. However, when humans

(47) poisoning

use pesticides to kill insects, they end up poissoning the animals which usually feed on those

(48) contaminated

pests. When kookaburras eat kontarminated insects, they absorb the chemicals in the

pesticides and store them in their fat. When the kookaburras use some of their stored fat

(49) of

during times of food shortages, high concentrations in chemicals may flow into their blood.

(50) deads X

The result can be reproductive losses or even dead.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

The opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics was held on August 8 last year. A member of the Chinese team took an oath on (51) ~~in front~~ of the twelve-thousand assembled athletes. He vowed to abide (52) by the Games' rules in the spirit of sportsmanship.

Regrettably, a few competitors have disregarded these high principles at past games with win-at-any-cost tactics, blatant cheating and drug use. "There are a few (53) ~~some~~ apples who spoil the entire spectacle," says Olympic historian, John Lucas. "It is easy to forget that there are far more patriotic and high-minded athletes (54) than there are drug cheats."

Undeniably, since the modern games (55) started in 1896, there have been hundreds of exceptional acts of sportsmanship - often unheralded and forgotten - that embodied the Olympic ideal.

An (56) ~~one~~ of this spirit of sportsmanship happened in Seoul in 1988. During a race in the one-man Finn Class sailing competition, Larry Lemieux (57) ~~in~~ Canada was in second place when he spotted Joseph Chan of Singapore, (58) ~~he~~ was in a different race, struggling in turbulent (59) ~~as~~ well away from his capsized boat. Chan had been thrown from his small craft and was in (60) danger of drowning in the turbulent seas.

Lemieux veered off (61) ~~to~~, sacrificing his chance for a medal, and ferried Chan (62) up to his overturned boat. Chan and his teammate were then picked up by a (63) rescue boat.

Officially, Lemieux finished in the eleventh (64) place in the tournament, but International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch later (65) ~~threw~~ him the Pierre de Coubertin Medal for Sportsmanship.

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

66. Mr. Tan was with his wife. They went into the restaurant.

Together with his wife, Mr Tan went into the restaurant.

67. Sandra and her friends did not sing at the party.

Neither Sandra nor her friends sang at the party.

68. Many people are afraid to go near hospitals. There has been an unidentified virus spreading in hospitals.

Many people are afraid to go near hospitals because of an unidentified virus spreading here.

69. Lily was embarrassed. She forgot the lyrics while singing in the contest.

Much to her embarrassment, Lily forgot the lyrics while singing in the contest.

70. Exercise is a simple way to lose weight. Exercise is also an effective way to lose weight.

Exercise is a simple yet effective way to lose weight.

Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

When I was young, we lived in a ramshackle wooden house on the outskirts of Kudat, a small town in northern Sabah, Malaysia. It stood on wooden stilts and had a steep sloping roof of corrugated zinc sheets, which made the house scorching hot during the day. The tiny collection of rooms inside could scarcely contain all our family - Father, Mother and 9 children.

We seemed to live in perpetual darkness. During the day, the surrounding trees blocked out much of the sunlight. Furthermore, the nights were always brooding, foreboding, time. This was the 1950s and early 1960s, and we had no electricity. We lit kerosene lamps, which produced only dim light. The gloom was exacerbated by the superstitious fears Mother passed on to us. Raised on a mixture of Chinese ancestral worship and Taoist and Buddhist beliefs, we believed in ghosts and malicious wandering spirits. Our friends, undoubtedly afraid of the dark and the eerie appearance of the house, rarely came over to play. I once overheard one of my relatives telling her children that our house was haunted. We preferred to play rounders and tag in a big field in the centre of the town. At dusk, I would reluctantly return home with a feeling of dread.

By the time I was a teenager, my superstitious fears had been replaced by feelings of dissatisfaction and embarrassment. All my friends had nicer homes with proper plumbing. We did not even have a toilet. Instead, we used chamber-pots. If friends dropped by out of the blue before the chamber-pots had been emptied, I would be overwhelmed by shame. Sometimes the pots were placed in the laundry area in full view. Even if they were hidden away in the bedroom, I was certain my friends could smell them.

When I was 13, I sprained my ankle at school and my principal, a Canadian named Mr. Hoex, drove me home. We arrived just in time to see my younger sister, Mei Fong, empty a chamber-pot. Everything was in full view - sister, chamber-pot and cascading urine mixed with excrement. I wished I could have been anywhere else at that moment. I saw Mr. Hoex as culturally superior, and although he did not say anything, I imagined him thinking, "What an unhygienic and unrefined family!"

I admit that life was not always awful. We had fun playing hide-and-seek and games of our own invention around the house. And when I was in my mid-teens, we got electricity. A fluorescent tube lit the living room and the bedrooms and kitchen each had a light bulb.

Still, I could see nothing much to appreciate about my home. To me, it was horrid; rotten - an eyesore.

Then, when I was 21, some teachers from my school came to visit. As my art teacher, Mr. Yong entered, he said, "Mei Siew, your house is placed in such a lovely setting. I had to stop and admire it from the road. All those trees forming the backdrop made it look so picturesque."

All of a sudden, I saw my house in a different light - from Mr. Yong's artistic point of view. The veil that had prevented me from noticing the beauty that had been there all the time fell away.

12/20

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71. Pick out the phrase which tells you that the house was too small for the writer's family.

[1 m]

scarcely contain ✓

72. Why did the writer mention that they 'seemed to live in perpetual darkness' (line 5)? [2 m]

During the day, the surrounding trees blocked out much of the sunlight and the nights were always brooding. -1

73. Identify the writer's feelings for the house during the different periods of her growing up years. For each of these periods, state why the writer felt this way. [4 m]

Period	How the writer felt	Reason
When the writer was young	scared ✓ afraid	The gloom was exacerbated by the superstitious fears Moth passed on to her ✓
When the writer was a teenager	embarrassed ✓	All the writer's friends had nicer homes with proper plumbing. ✓

74. What were the chamber-pots used for? [2 m]

It replaced toilets. -1

75. Explain why the writer was 'overwhelmed by shame' (line 18) when her friends dropped by unexpectedly at her house? [2 m]

She thought her friends smelled the smell and felt disgusted. -1

76. Give two instances to show that 'life was not always awful' (line 27). [2 m]

They had fun playing hide-and-seek and games of their own invention around the house.

-1

77. Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the story. [1 m]

- ☒ 2 The writer was embarrassed by the presence of chamber-pots in her house.
☐ 1 Kerosene lamps were used for lighting up the house.
☒ 3 Light bulbs were used for lighting up the house.

78. Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3 m]

	True/ False	Reason
The writer's house was haunted.		×
The writer was bothered about what Mr. Hoex thought when he saw the emptying of the chamber-pot.	False	×
Mr. Yong was impressed by the writer's house.	True	He said that the writer's house was lovely. ✓

79. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as 'beautiful and attractive'? [1 m]

lovely ×

80. 'The veil that had prevented me from noticing the beauty that had been there all the time fell away.' (lines 36 - 37)

Pick out the word from this sentence which refers to the prejudices that the writer had against the house, and explain clearly the significance of this sentence. [2 m]

Word which refers to the prejudices that the writer had against the house.	veil ✓
Significance of sentence	×